

REMARKS

Claims 21, 27 and 33 have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added. Accordingly, claims 21-28 are currently pending in the above-identified application.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority and receipt of the priority document in the parent application.

35 U.S.C. §112

The claims have been amended to overcome the rejection under this section. The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 21-38 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 21-25 of U.S. Patent No. 5,889,971. Without admitting to the propriety of the rejection, the Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer to avoid the rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants contend that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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